



HAMILTON COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

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MINUTES

LEPC Meeting, September 20th, 2000

A meeting of the Hamilton County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was held September 20th, 2000 at Wally's Restaurant, 1600 McCallie Ave, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Those in attendance were:

Eric Burnett, Chairman, City Traffic Engineering Division
David Darnell, 1st Vice Chairman, BASF Corporation
Jamie Farrow, Vice Chairman, ConAgra
Dusty Rominger, Vice Chairman, W.R. Grace
Wayne Stuntz, Secretary, Hamilton County Emergency Services
Charles Chauncey, R.A.C.E.S
Mike Lunsford, CSX Transportation—Guest Speaker
Mike Beavers, TVA-Sequoiah
Terry Million, DuPont Company
Tim Arnold, TN State Guard
Sam Bernard, Tri-State CISM/Bernard & Assoc. P.C.
Bruce Garner, Chattanooga Fire Department
Mike Edwards, McKee Foods Corp.
Bob Diehl, ETVI
Renee' Dehart, Nu Foam Products
Jim Parks, Chattanooga Health Dept.
Charlie Lamar, PB&S Chem Company, Inc.
Charles Goodner, R.A.C.E.S.
Caroline Williams, League of Women Voters
Joyce Wagner
Richard Twitchell, CSTCC
Bill Tittle, Hamilton County Emergency Services
Tony Reavely, Hamilton County emergency Services
Amy Maxwell, Hamilton County Emergency Services
Tony Quarles, Chattanooga Fire Department
Jim Coppiner, Chattanooga Fire Department

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Chairman Eric Burnett called the meeting to order at 1035 a.m. The Chairman welcomed each and every LEPC member and our special guest speaker for the day, Mr. Mike Lunsford of CSX.

Next, the Chairman asked those in attendance if they had received the last LEPC minutes and all responded that they had. He then asked for corrections or comments on the minutes of June 21, 2000 (there being no LEPC meeting in August due to the LEPC Conference). There were no corrections/comments noted and Charles Chauncey made a motion seconded by Charles Goodner to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved.

The Chairman received and shared with members of the committee a couple of letters giving high praise for the LEPC Conference conducted in August and cited a letter from Andrew Porter, Regional EPA, stating that Hamilton County's LEPC is the most active LEPC in the South East.

The Chairman in keeping with the topic asked Mr. Darnell to give a recap of the conference. Mr. Darnell stated that the conference had two objectives; one being to educate and the other is that it is an excellent vehicle to interface between Emergency Services around the Tri-State area and the communities served—and this attributes to a successful conference. He said that the two courses offered at the beginning of the conference were made up of Fire Fighters and folks from the Industry and that these classes were being offered free to attendee's. On Day One, the Hazwoper course offered training for 27 people and on Day Two, the Incident Command course served 23 people.

Mr. Darnell thanked the Chattanooga Fire Department for being gracious enough to provide the classroom setting for the two courses offered prior to the conference and Velsicol Chemical Co. for providing lunch for both days courses. Mr. Darnell also noted that this was the first time that the LEPC offered a two-day conference and its success was measured by its attendance—189 people showed up, not counting the thirteen (13) guest speakers. He also mentioned that from a financial standpoint, it was a success considering that expenses, totaling in excess \$17,000, were met totally using the HMEP Grant and the tremendous support and generosity of the sponsors. The great news was that LEPC funds were untouched.

Mr. Darnell praised the speakers saying they were experts in their fields and that several of them sent messages back to him saying “how pleased they were to be able to address the conference and were we going to do in again”? David said that he was stepping down from Chairing future LEPC Conference’ s and that the LEPC as a whole should be very proud of the work it has done.

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The Chairman thanked Mr. Darnell for his excellent work as Chair of the five consecutive “successful” conferences and in grateful appreciation for his outstanding efforts, presented him with a plaque. Thank you Mr. David Darnell for your guidance, hard work, and commitment to excellence.

The Chairman asked the committee if there was any other Old Business issues to discuss. Mr. Darnell rose to the occasion and said that Mr. Burnett was to be commended for the fine job he had done as Chairman of the LEPC during such a trying and difficult period the LEPC had just gone through. That Mr. Burnett had met the challenges and was to be praised for that. Mr. Burnett was then presented a beautiful plaque and was applauded by members present. Mr. Burnett vowed to keep his fingers in the LEPC pie. Thank you Mr. Burnett.

There being none, he went on to New Business giving an LEPC Financial Report. After speaking later to the previous Chairman, Eric Burnett, he stated that after the Trade Center bill was paid (totaling \$14, 432.32), the LEPC balance will be \$8,610.

The Chairman thanked the Program Committee, especially Ms Caroline Williams for setting up the meeting place. Ms Williams---catering for future use.?????

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Mike Lunsford of CSX Transportation, our guest speaker of the day. Mike, Hazmat Manager for CSX from Henderson County, gave an excellent presentation on “Railroad and Hazardous Materials”. His company operates in 22 states (none west of the Mississippi) and Canada . He covered statistical data regarding incidents his company has handled with HAZMAT releases since 1998 and an informative “Overview of the US Tank Car Fleet”. He has graciously offered to come back to Chattanooga and present a 4-hour class on “Emergency Response to Railroad Incidents”. We thank Mr. Lunsford for taking time out of his busy schedule to come to our meeting. It was very informative and we look forward to hearing from him in the future.

The Chairman announced that this was the annual organizational meeting (third quarter of calendar year) in which the nomination of officers was to take place. He then turned meeting over to Mr. Wayne Stuntz, LEPC Secretary, who acted as Chairperson pro-tem for the election process.

Mr. Stuntz said he was pleased to inform the committee that in keeping with the LEPC By-Laws, a quorum for the committee to hold elections had been met and that only one member from each organization/group would be eligible to vote—i.e. that if an organization had more than one representation at the meeting, only one would be allowed to cast a vote.

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He went on to say that the first order of business in the election process would be to elect a Chairman from the five incumbent Executive Committee members and that Nomination Committee had only produced one (1) nomination for Chairman from the five vice-chair positions.

Mr. Stuntz stated that he had prepared pre-printed ballots with the one nominee's name on it (Mr. Bruce Garner) and that there were ample spaces for "write-in" votes. He then told members of the committee that he would at this time accept other nominations for Chairman from the floor. There being none, Chief, Tony Reavley made the motion, seconded by Mr. Charles Chauncey that Mr. Bruce Garner be accepted as the new Chairperson for the Hamilton County LEPC and was unanimously affirmed by all members present.

The next order in the election process was to fill the vice-chairman position vacated by Mr. Bruce Garner to and open up elections for the other vice-chair positions. Mr. Stuntz also informed the Committee that Mr. Dusty Rominger would not run for re-election to his current Vice Chairman position. Mr. Stuntz then informed the committee that the Nominating Committee had submitted five names to fill the Vice Chairman positions and that a ballot had been prepared with their names on it and was being passed out to each voting LEPC member. Also included on the ballot was a space for the committee to select a "First Vice Chairman" person from those nominated.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted on by the Committee to accept all five nominations for Vice Chairman positions. Mr. Bob Diehl and Ms Joyce Wagner were voted in to fill the vacated vice-chairman position and the position vacated by Mr. Dusty Rominger. The remaining incumbent Vice Chairperson's (who agreed to continue for another term) were voted in by acclamation—acknowledging that Mr. Dusy Rominger had declined to be renominated..

A counting of votes for the First Vice Chairman position was taken by the Secretary and Chief Coppinger of the Chattanooga Fire Department and it was announced that Mr. David Darnell had clearly won the vote for that position.

Regarding the last Agenda item: "Date and location for next meeting", Ms. Caroline Williams addressed the Committee saying that she and Ms. Joyce Wagner had

the suggestion that when there were no clear commitments to host the next meeting (or the same company hosting it more than once or twice in a year), that maybe two or more smaller organizations would be willing to host the meeting at the Fire Training Center on Amnicola Highway and co-share the cost a catering service for lunch.

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Mr. Bruce Garner said that the Chattanooga Fire Department would host the next meeting in November. He also told Ms Williams that regarding her suggestion, the Fire Department would be willing to offer their facility, however, it would depend on prior commitments.

As a final note, we would like to once again congratulate our new Chairman, Bruce Garner, our two new Vice Chairperson's, Mr. Bob Diehl and Ms Joyce Wagner and the existing Vice Chair incumbents, Mr. Larry Martin, Ms Jamie Farrow, and Mr. David Darnell.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm and lunch was served.

Respectively submitted:

Wayne Stuntz
Secretary